

6 A NEW VISION BY KEVIN LAU

VAMPiRElla

BY

Kevin Lau



LAU
CONWAY
TAM



vampirella.com

SINCE
1955

#6

A NEW VISION BY KEVIN LAU

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A comic book cover illustration featuring a vampire character with long, flowing dark hair and a pale, menacing face. The character is wearing a dark, textured coat and is holding a large, ornate, golden-colored object that resembles a cross or a religious artifact. The background is dark and atmospheric, with a large, glowing, circular light source on the right side. The overall color palette is dominated by dark blues, blacks, and a bright yellow-green glow from the light source and the text.

VAMPIRE™

DARK ANGEL RISING: PART THREE

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THE PAST



In the back room of a music club, a young Vampi helps her friend Suicide recover from his scuffle with the notorious racist gang, The Dead Presidents.



Little do Vampi and Suicide know, that at the same time, the Presidents are right outside at the bar, sending frighteningly mixed messages to their friend Miki as her band sets up to perform.

THE PRESENT

Vampi's mission to regain the Ladder from Archangel has proved fatal. Shelley—the guard who agreed to help her—was tortured and killed for betraying her boss.



Fairchild—another turncoat—was brutally murdered as well. Vampi herself was beaten, shot, thrown into the river and left for dead.



But Vampi is more than human. And she's been working for someone else all along. BioCorp, Inc. are the makers and rightful owners of the Ladder—the blueprint for human DNA. Vampi put her life on the line for them—and because of her sacrifice, they're not going to let her die.

While the BioCorp medics work to revive Vampi, the board members argue over what to do about the still-missing Ladder. What they don't know is that one of their own members is a spy for Archangel.

Nor do they know that two of Archangel's men, Shockrock and Deadbolt, have now broken into the same chamber where a groggy Vampi has just awakened.





WERE ON
FULL-SCALE
BLACK ALERT,
JACOB.

TOTAL
SECURITY
SHUTDOWN.

TOO
LITTLE,
TOO LATE,
DUVAL.

ARCHANGEL'S
TRIGGERED THE
MELTDOWN
DEVICE.



AND
WE'VE GOT
A SECURITY
BREACH IN
MED-LAB 1!

VAMPI'S
STILL IN I.C.U.
--WE'VE GOT TO
GET HER OUT
OF THERE
NOW!



FORGET
HER! SHE'S
STILL IN A
COMA!



I'M NOT
DESERTING
HER, GRAYSON!



SHE'S
PROBABLY DEAD
ALREADY.

GRAYSON'S
GOT A POINT.

"BUT GO AHEAD
--SEND IN A
TACTICAL OPS
TEAM..."

"MAYBE THEY'LL
MAKE IT IN TIME..."



"...TO RETRIEVE
THE BODY."





UHHNNN

DON'T
BOTHER TO
GET UP.

IT'LL ALL
BE OVER IN
A SECOND...



I STILL
OWE YOU.

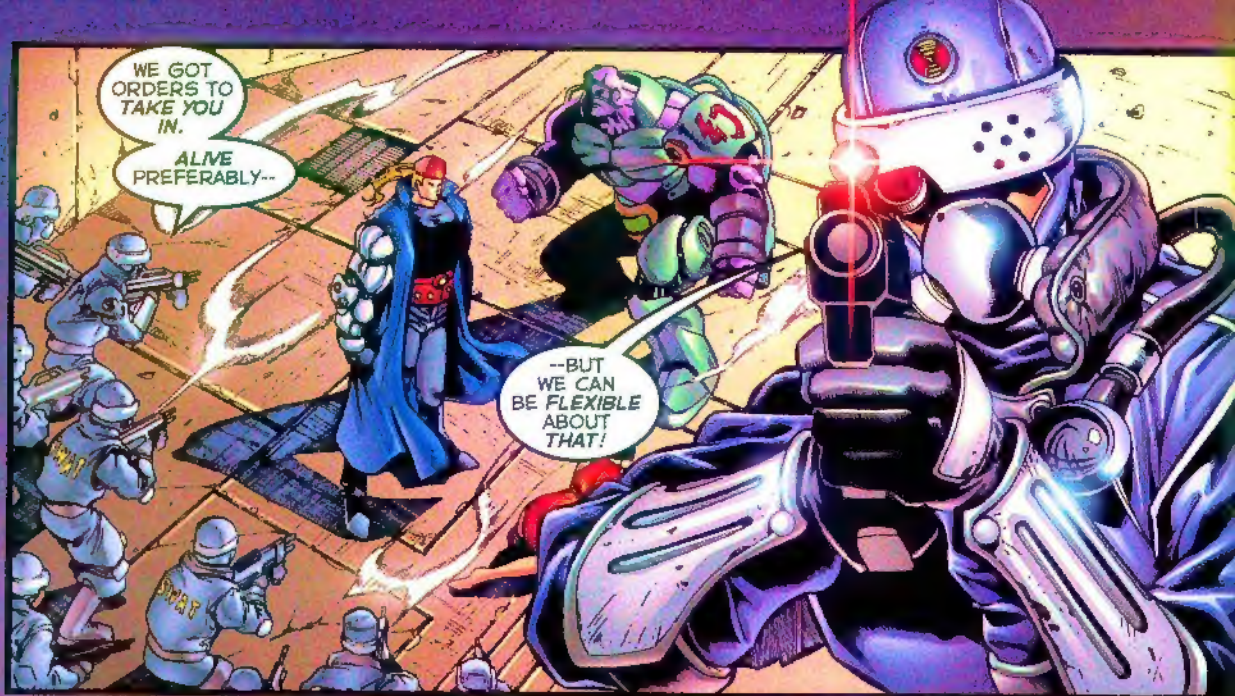
AND,
PERSONALLY,
I'D LIKE TO TAKE
MY OWN SWEET
TIME TO SETTLE
THE SCORE...

...BUT
ARCHANGEL
WANTS IT DONE
QUICK AND
CLEAN!

STILL,
I'LL TRY
TO MAKE IT
AS PAINFUL
AS--

FREEZE,
YOU UGLY
SON-OF-A-
BITCH!

...



C'MON, KID, YOU'RE SAFE NOW.

WE'LL TAKE YOU TO MR. JONES.

JACOB?! HE'S STILL HERE?

TELL HIM TO GET THE HELL OUTTA HERE.

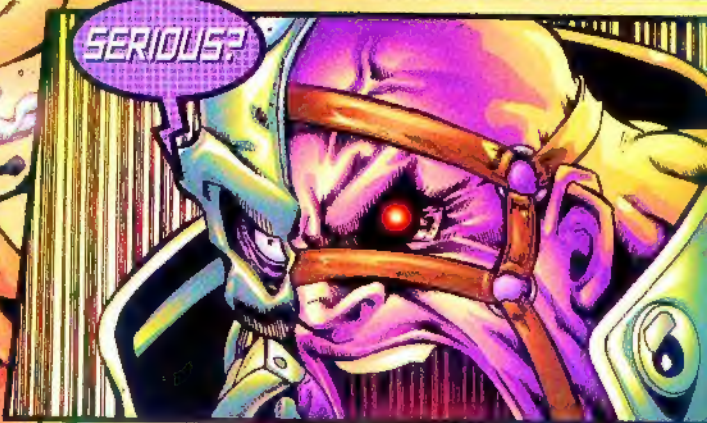


DOESN'T HE REALIZE THE KIND OF DANGER WE'RE IN?!



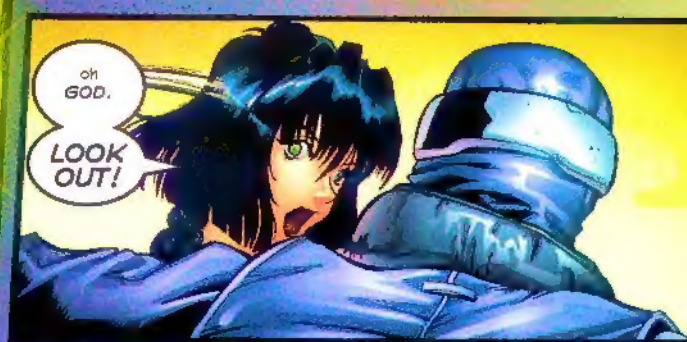
GODDAMN, THIS IS SERIOUS!

IF WE SCREW UP AGAIN, WE'RE DEAD...





I'LL
SHOW 'EM
SERIOUS!



oh
GOD.
LOOK
OUT!



AAAAHHHHH

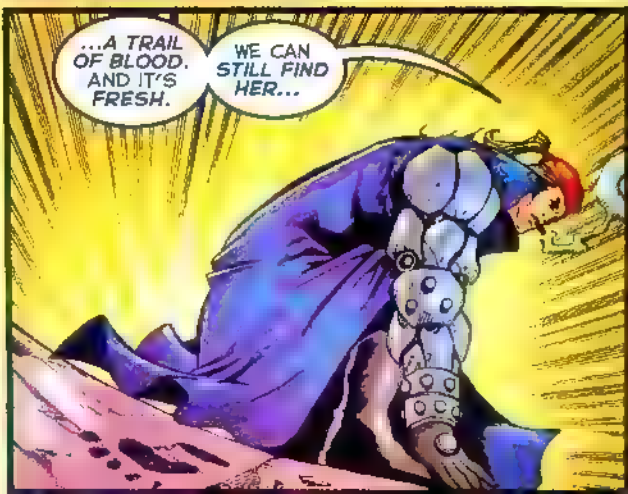


YOU
MADE JERKS
OUTTA US ONE
TIME TOO
MANY!



THIS
TIME WE'RE
PLAYING FOR
KEEPS!

ARCHANGEL'S
GIVEN US ONE
LAST CHANCE!





"...WHEREVER
SHE RUNS."

JACOB SACRIFICED
THOSE GRUNTS
FOR ME.

I KNOW HE'D
WANT ME TO
SAVE MYSELF.

BUT MY
LUNGS ARE
READY TO
BURST.

IF IT WASN'T
FOR JACOB, I
WOULDN'T EVEN
BE BREATHING...

SO I'M NOT
LEAVING WITHOUT
HIM.

JACOB!



YOU'VE GOT TO GET EVERYBODY OUT OF HERE! **NOW!**

VAMPI?



MY GOD, I THOUGHT YOU WERE STILL IN A COMA.



WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE--

--IF WE'RE STILL HERE WHEN ARCHANGEL'S GOONS ARRIVE!

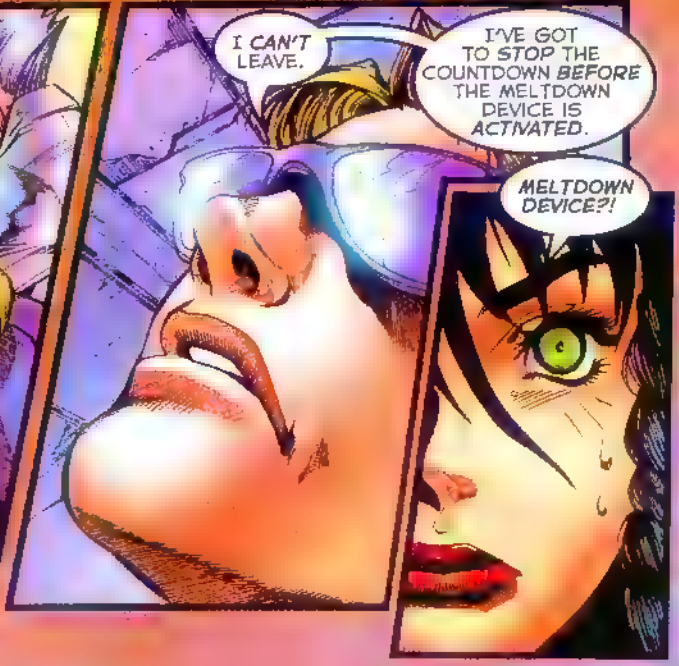


WE NEED TO EVACUATE KEY PERSONNEL, JACOB.

AND I SHOULD, UH, SUPERVISE THE EVACUATION.

JUST GO, GRAYSON.

DUVAL, DO WHATEVER YOU HAVE TO.



I CAN'T LEAVE.

I'VE GOT TO STOP THE COUNTDOWN BEFORE THE MELTDOWN DEVICE IS ACTIVATED.

MELTDOWN DEVICE?!

YOU'VE GOT
A NUKE IN
THIS PLACE!

Biocorp Meltdown
Meltdown Sequence Engaged
Stop
Time remaining: 8 Minutes, 23 Seconds

...THE
OUTCOME IS
INEVITABLE.

IN A
MATTER OF
MINUTES BIOCORP
WILL BE
HISTORY.

BUT
WHAT ABOUT
SHOCKROCK AND
DEADBOLT?

THEY'RE
STILL IN THERE,
ARCHANGEL.

SHOULDN'T
WE WARN
THEM?

WARN
THEM?

IT'S A
SUICIDE
MISSION,
MY DEAR
ENDURA.

THEY'VE
OUTLIVED
THEIR
USEFULNESS.

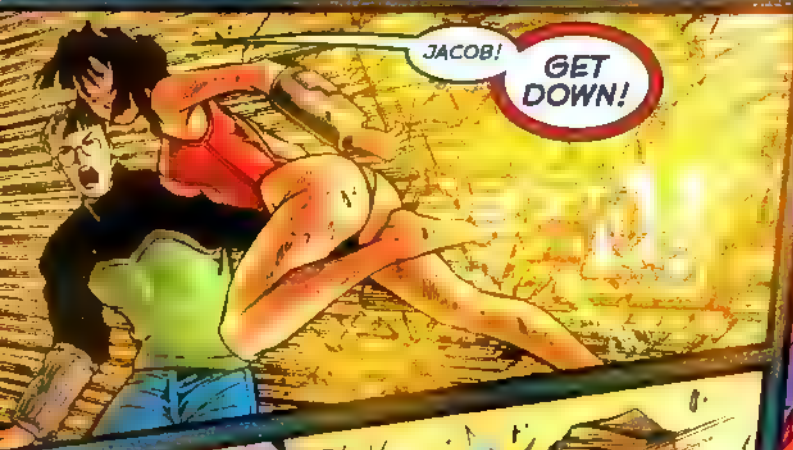
OR,
TO BE
MORE PRECISE,
THEY WILL
HAVE...



--ONCE THEY
EXTERMINATE
THE BITCH!

ALL
THOSE
BLOODY
FOOTPRINTS--
YOU MADE IT
SO EASY,
MAN!

ITS
LIKE YOU
WANTED US
TO FIND
YOU!

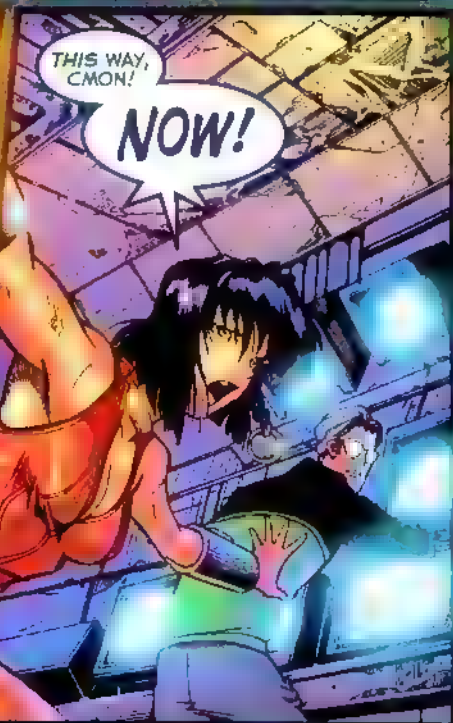


JACOB!

GET
DOWN!



THEY'RE
KILLING
EVERYONE!

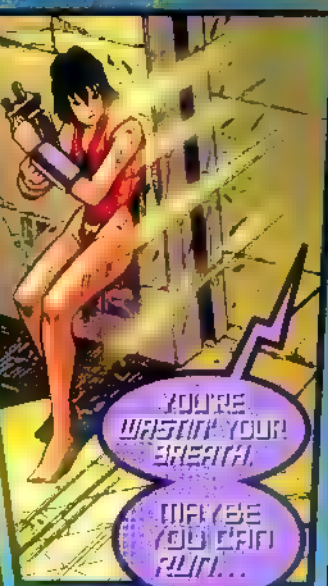


THIS WAY,
CMON!

NOW!

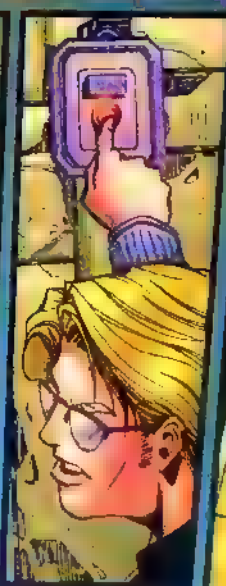


WHERE
YOU GOING?

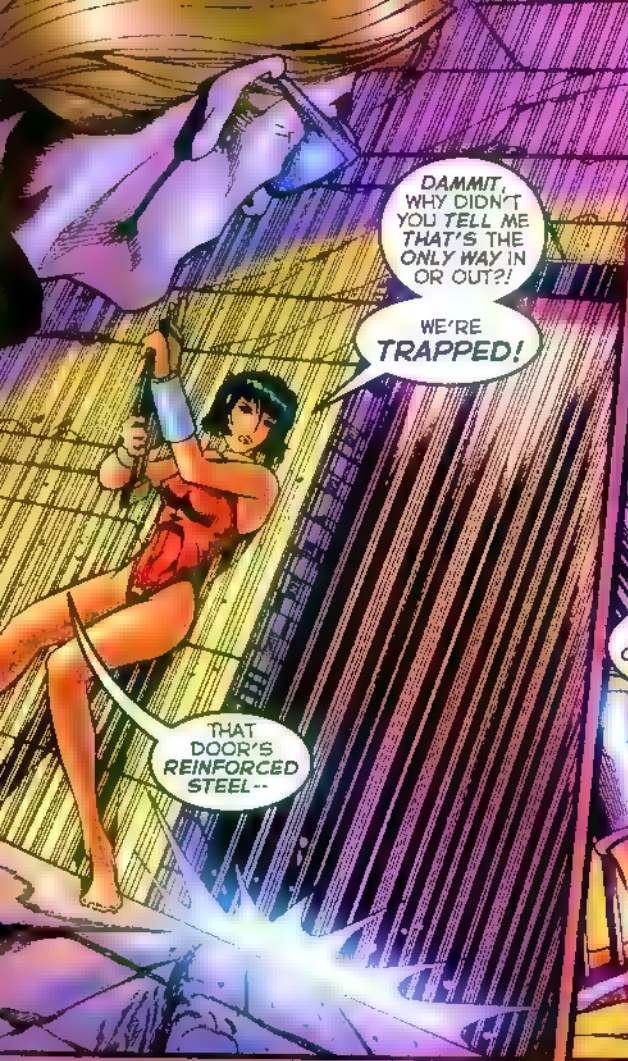


YOU'RE
WASTING YOUR
BREATH.

MAYBE
YOU CAN
RUN...



BUT
YOU CAN'T
HIDE!



DAMMIT,
WHY DIDN'T
YOU TELL ME
THAT'S THE
ONLY WAY IN
OR OUT?!

WE'RE
TRAPPED!

THAT
DOOR'S
REINFORCED
STEEL--

"--IT SHOULD
BUY US SOME
TIME."

TIME?!
THAT'S RUNNING
OUT FASTER THAN
THE AMMO.

THERE'S
GOT TO BE
SOME WAY OUT
OF HERE!



THERE
MIGHT BE
A WAY.

NOT
EXACTLY A
STRATEGY...

...MORE
LIKE KAMIKAZE
TACTICS.



WHATEVER
IT TAKES TO
STOP THEM, WE'VE
GOT NO CHOICE
NOW...



...SO LET'S TALK ABOUT SUICIDE?

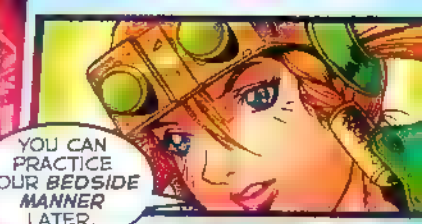
IT LOOKS BAD--BUT YOU GOT OFF LIGHTLY, CONSIDERING...

STILL PLAYING DOCTOR, VAMPI?



TIME TO PARK YOUR ASS BEHIND THE SOUND-DESK.

THERE'S THE SMALL MATTER OF A GIG. REMEMBER?



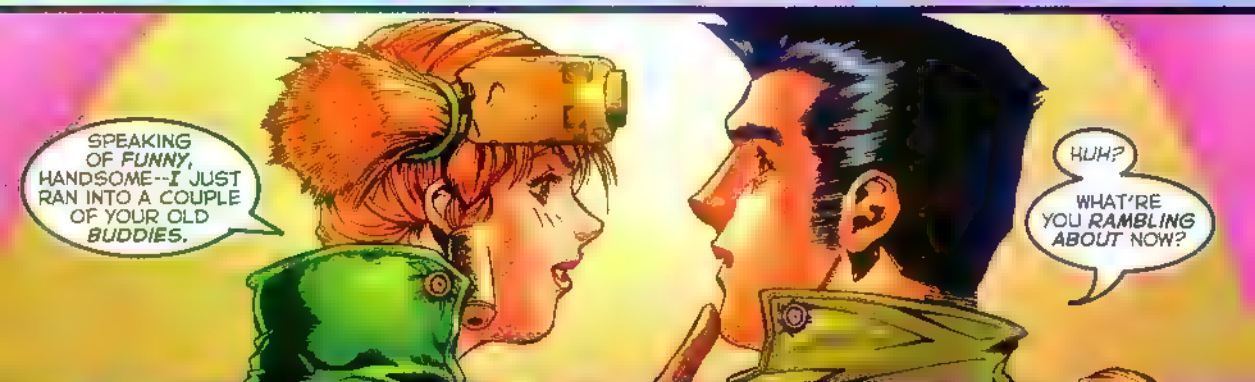
YOU CAN PRACTICE YOUR BEDSIDE MANNER LATER.



OH, YOU'RE SHARP, MIKI.



YEAH--A REAL RIOT!



SPEAKING OF FUNNY, HANDSOME--I JUST RAN INTO A COUPLE OF YOUR OLD BUDDIES.

HUH?
WHAT'RE YOU RAMBLING ABOUT NOW?



"BUNCH OF CRACKERJACKS IN YANKEE DOODLE DANDY DRAG--RING ANY BELLS?"





THE DEAD
PRESIDENTS--
HERE?!

THOSE
BASTARDS ARE
HISTORY!

WHAT
ARE YOU
GONNA
DO?!

MURDER
THEM
ALL?!

SOUNDS
LIKE A
PLAN!

I'M
SORRY.

BUT IF
THIS IS WHAT
IT TAKES TO SAVE
YOUR DUMB
ASS...



YOU
ALWAYS
HURT THE
ONE YOU
LOVE,
HUH.

KINDA
DRASTIC,
DONTCHYA
THINK,
VAMPI?

COMPARED
TO THE ALTERNATIVE,
MIKI?

NO.
NOT REALLY.



LEAST
THIS WAY
HE'LL STAY
OUTTA TROUBLE,
RIGHT?

I
GUESS.
ANYWAY,
OUR PUBLIC
AWAITS...

"...TIME TO KICK
SOME SERIOUS
ASS."

YOU
GOT ~~THAT~~
THE ~~WRONG~~ WAY
ROUND.

ANY LAST
WORDS?

REALLY?

I GUESS
THAT MEANS
ARCHANGEL NEVER
TOLD YOU ABOUT
THE MELTDOWN
DEVICE.

HUH?

JUST
WHAT IS
THE MELTDOWN
DEVICE?

THE
ULTIMATE
FAIL-SAFE.

IT'S A
DOOMSDAY
DEVICE--AND
YOUR BOSS
ACTIVATED
IT.

UH...
CAN'T WE...
TALK ABOUT
THIS?

TALK?
OH SURE.

BETTER
BE QUICK
THOUGH...

--THE
COUNTDOWN
HAS BEEN
ACCELERATED
BY A FULL EIGHT
MINUTES!

JACOB
WAS TRYING
TO HALT THE
COUNTDOWN.

--UNLESS SOMEONE
TALKED HIM
INTO IT.

HE
WOULDN'T
DELIBERATELY
ACTIVATE THE
MELTDOWN
DEVICE...

BUT WHEN
YOU MORONS
TRIED TO KILL HIM,
IT WAS EASY TO
CONVINCE HIM TO
USE THIS GIZMO
TO ACCELERATE
IT INSTEAD.

I CAN THINK
OF ONLY ONE
PERSON WHO
COULD DO THAT.

OBVIOUSLY SHOCKROCK
AND DEADBOLT FAILED TO
DISPOSE OF HER.

MELTDOWN
SEQUENCE
00:00



BUT
WON'T THE
MELTDOWN
DEVICE KILL
HER TOO?

THE MELTDOWN
DEVICE IS A
DEFENSIVE
WEAPON.

IT'S A POWERFUL
ELECTROMAGNETIC
PULSE GENERATOR,
DESIGNED TO FRY
EVERY ELECTRONIC
COMPONENT IN THE
BUILDING...

IT DESTROYS
INFORMATION.

NOTHING
ELSE.

...INCLUDING THE
BIOTRONIC CHIPS
IN THOSE TWO IDIOTS'
PROSTHETICALLY
ENHANCED BODIES.

SHOUTING
NO!

SHE KNOWS
IT'S THEIR ONLY
REAL WEAKNESS

DON'T
DON'T DIE
ON HER!

--AND HER
ONLY CHANCE.

YOU'RE
DEAD, YOU
BITCH!

CLEVER
GIRL.

BIG
TALK.

BUT
THAT'S ALL
IT IS, YOU
BASTARD--



--TALK!



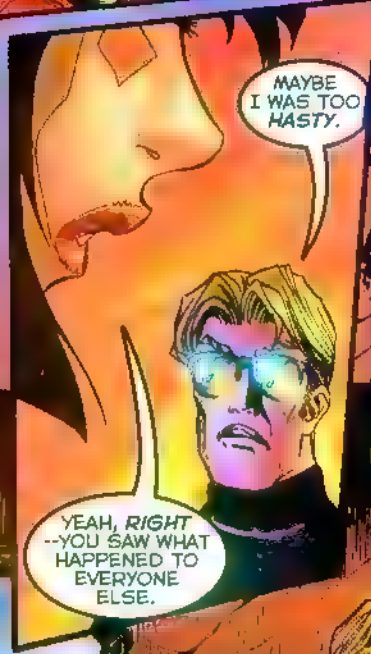
SO MUCH FOR THE "KAMIKAZE TACTICS", JACOB.



WE'RE BOTH STILL IN ONE PIECE.

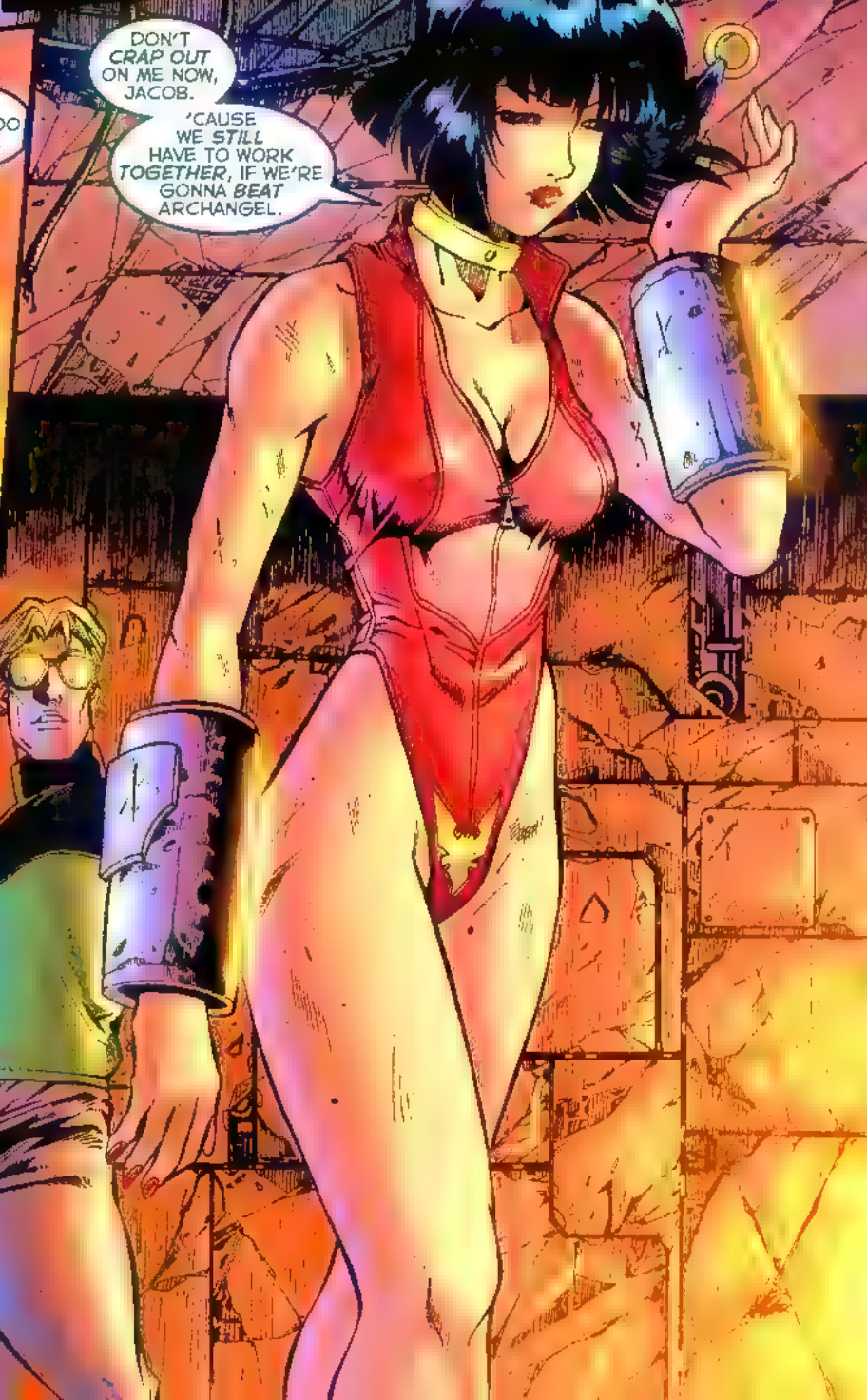
BUT EVERYTHING I'VE WORKED FOR ...IT'S ALL GONE. THE MELTDOWN DEVICE HAS ERASED ALL THE BIOCORP DATABASES.

MAYBE I WAS WRONG LETTING YOU USE IT THAT WAY.



MAYBE I WAS TOO HASTY.

YEAH, RIGHT --YOU SAW WHAT HAPPENED TO EVERYONE ELSE.



DON'T CRAP OUT ON ME NOW, JACOB.

'CAUSE WE STILL HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER, IF WE'RE GONNA BEAT ARCHANGEL.

BEAT HIM?

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT'S JUST HAPPENED HERE...?

"ARCHANGEL
HAS WON!"

SO, VAMPI
SURVIVES--
AGAIN.

YES, SHE
SURVIVED--
THAT'S ALL.

SHE
PRACTICALLY
DESTROYED BIOCORP
WHEN SHE LIQUIDATED
THOSE TWO
IDIOTS.

AND THE
LADDER'S
STILL MINE.

BUT
SHE WON'T
GIVE UP.

OR
HADN'T YOU
THOUGHT
OF THAT?

THOUGHT
OF IT?

MY DEAR
ENDURA, I'M
COUNTING
ON IT.



TO BE CONTINUED

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NEXT ISSUE...



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